

# Senate

General Assembly

File No. 329

February Session, 2002

Substitute Senate Bill No. 576

Senate, April 4, 2002

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. FONFARA of the 1st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

# AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN PARCELS OF STATE LAND.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding any provision
- 2 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Transportation shall
- 3 convey to the city of Stamford a parcel of land located in the city of
- 4 Stamford, at a cost equal to the administrative costs of making such
- 5 conveyance. Said parcel of land has an area of approximately 14.6
- 6 acres, and is identified as the parcel shown as "Release Area" on a map
- 7 entitled "Town of Stamford, Map Showing Land Released to, by The
- 8 State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, Ct. Route 15 at
- 9 Riverbank Road, Scale 1"=100', May, 2000, James F. Byrnes Jr., P.E.,
- 10 Chief Engineer Bureau of Engineering and Highway Operations".
- 11 The conveyance shall be subject to the approval of the State Properties
- 12 Review Board.

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(b) The Commissioner of Transportation shall convey said parcel of land to the city of Stamford subject to the condition that the city of Stamford grant a permanent conservation easement to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to preserve the entire parcel in perpetuity in its natural, scenic and open condition for the protection of natural resources while allowing for recreation consistent with such protection.

- (c) The State Properties Review Board shall complete its review of the conveyance of said parcel of land not later than thirty days after it receives proposed agreement from the Department Transportation. The land shall remain under the care and control of said department until a conveyance is made in accordance with the provisions of this section. The State Treasurer shall execute and deliver any deed or instrument necessary for a conveyance under this section, which deed or instrument shall include provisions to carry out the purposes of subsection (b) of this section. The Commissioner of Transportation shall have the sole responsibility for all other incidents of such conveyance.
- Sec. 2. Section 7 of special act 99-17 is amended to read as follows (Effective from passage):
- 33 (a) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the 34 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall 35 convey to the town of Hebron three parcels of land located in the town 36 of Hebron and known as the Johnson Farm Parcel, [at a cost equal to 37 forty per cent of the fair market value of said parcels, upon (A) 38 acquisition by said commissioner of said parcels from Vision Housing, 39 Inc., and (B) approval [in Regional School District Number 8 of a 40 referendum question on the construction of a new high school in the 41 town of Hebron for said school district] by the town of Hebron in 42 accordance with the provisions of any charter, home rule ordinance or 43 special act for said town. The Commissioner of Economic and 44 Community Development shall not be required to complete the 45 acquisition of said parcels from Vision Housing, Inc. until the town of

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46 <u>Hebron approves the conveyance of said parcels from the</u> 47 commissioner.

- 48 (2) The conveyance of said parcels of land by the Commissioner of 49 Economic and Community Development to the town of Hebron shall 50 be made at a cost equal to forty per cent of the fair market value of said 51 parcels minus the amount of any delinquent property taxes levied by 52 the town of Hebron against said parcels on or before the effective date 53 of this section. In order to determine the fair market value of the 54 parcels, both the state of Connecticut and the town of Hebron shall, at 55 their own expense, obtain independent appraisals for the parcels. The 56 state and the town of Hebron shall use such appraisals to negotiate the 57 final fair market value of the parcels. If the state and the town of 58 Hebron fail to reach an agreement on the fair market value, a third 59 independent appraisal shall be completed by an appraiser jointly 60 selected by the state and the town of Hebron, the cost of which shall be 61 paid equally by both the state and the town of Hebron. Such third 62 appraisal shall serve to determine the fair market value of the 63 property.
- [(2)] (3) Said parcels of land have a total acreage of approximately 65.301 acres and are further described as follows:
- 66 First Parcel: A certain piece or parcel of land with all improvements 67 and appurtenances thereto situated in the town of Hebron, County of 68 Tolland and State of Connecticut consisting of approximately 30.30 69 acres and shown as Parcel B on a certain map entitled "Property of 70 Reuben H. & Lydia Y. Bosley, Scale 1" = 100', Date 05-28-81", which 71 map was prepared by Megson & Heagle, Civil Engineers & Land 72 Surveyors, Glastonbury, Conn., and which map is on file in the Hebron 73 Town Clerk's Office in Volume 10, Page 22.
- Second Parcel: A certain piece or parcel of land with all improvements and appurtenances thereto situated in the town of Hebron, County of Tolland and State of Connecticut consisting of approximately 25.001 acres and shown as Parcel B on a certain map entitled "Plan Prepared for H.H.C.D.C., Scale 1" = 100', Date 07-23-90",

79 which map was prepared by Fuss & O'Neill, Consulting Engineers,

- 80 Manchester, Connecticut, and which map is on file in the Hebron
- 81 Town Clerk's Office in Volume 16, Page 56.
- 82 Third Parcel: A certain piece or parcel of land with all
- 83 improvements and appurtenances thereto situated in the town of
- 84 Hebron, County of Tolland and State of Connecticut consisting of
- 85 approximately 10.00 acres and shown as Parcel C on a certain map
- 86 entitled "Sorghum Hill Farms Property of Lina Lucarelli & Joseph L.
- 87 Alberti, Scale 1" = 100', Date 10-74", which was prepared by Griswold
- 88 & Fuss, Consulting Engineers and Surveyors, Manchester,
- 89 Connecticut, and which map is on file in the Hebron Town Clerk's
- 90 Office in Volume 5, Page 76.
- 91 (4) The conveyance shall be subject to (A) the dismissal and waiver
- 92 of all tax liens currently held against the property by the town of
- 93 Hebron, and (B) the approval of the State Properties Review Board.
- 94 The conveyance of said parcels to the town of Hebron shall also
- 95 include any liens, debts or encumbrances, if any, which may exist on
- 96 said parcels. The Commissioner of Economic and Community
- 97 Development shall provide an accounting of such liens, debts or
- 98 encumbrances, if any, to the town of Hebron prior to the conveyance of
- 99 said parcels. The town of Hebron shall hold the state of Connecticut
- 100 harmless with regard to any and all existing or potential
- 101 environmental issues with regard to said parcels.
- 102 (b) The town of Hebron shall [convey or lease said parcels of land to
- 103 Regional School District Number 8, which shall use said parcels of
- land for the construction of a new high school for said school district. If
- the town of Hebron does not convey or lease said parcels to said school
- 106 district, the parcels shall revert to the state of Connecticut. If the town
- 107 of Hebron conveys said parcels to said school district and the school
- district does not use the parcels for said purposes, the parcels shall
- 109 revert to the town of Hebron and then to the state of Connecticut. If the
- 110 town of Hebron leases said parcels to said school district and the
- 111 school district does not use the parcels for said purposes, the lease

shall terminate, and the parcels shall revert to the state of Connecticut

- 113 <u>use said parcels for open space, recreational or public safety purposes.</u>
- 114 If the town of Hebron (1) does not use said parcels for any of said
- purposes, (2) does not retain ownership of all of said parcels, or (3)
- leases all or any portion of said parcels, the parcels shall revert to the
- 117 <u>state of Connecticut</u>. In the case of any reversion of said parcels to the
- 118 state under this subsection, the state shall refund to the town of
- Hebron the amount paid by the town for said parcels under subsection
- 120 (a) of this section.
- 121 (c) The State Properties Review Board shall complete its review of
- the conveyance of said parcels of land not later than thirty days after it
- 123 receives a proposed agreement from the Department of Economic and
- 124 Community Development. The land shall remain under the care and
- 125 control of said department until a conveyance is made in accordance
- with the provisions of this section. The State Treasurer shall execute
- and deliver any deed or instrument necessary for a conveyance under
- this section, which deed or instrument shall include provisions to carry
- out the purposes of subsection (b) of this section. The Commissioner of
- 130 Economic and Community Development shall have the sole
- responsibility for all other incidents of such conveyance.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 6 of special act 01-6 is amended to
- read as follows (*Effective from passage*):
- 134 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the
- 135 Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall convey to the town of
- 136 Old Lyme two parcels of land located in the town of Old Lyme, at a
- 137 cost equal to the administrative costs of making such conveyance. Said
- parcels of land are described as follows: (1) Lot 52 on town of Old
- 139 Lyme Tax Assessor's Map 43, which parcel has an area of
- approximately 1.23 acres, and (2) Lot [5] <u>51</u> on town of Old Lyme Tax
- 141 Assessor's Map 48, which parcel has an area of approximately 1.23
- acres. The conveyance shall be subject to the approval of the State
- 143 Properties Review Board.
- 144 Sec. 4. (Effective from passage) The state of Connecticut, acting

through the State Treasurer, is authorized to execute and deliver to the

- 146 United States of America, without consideration, a quit claim deed
- 147 releasing any right or restriction retained in a quit claim deed dated
- 148 March 25, 1958, from the state of Connecticut to the United States of
- 149 America, and recorded in the land records of the City of New London,
- 150 County of New London and State of Connecticut in Volume 282, at
- 151 Page 329, which quit claim deed was executed pursuant to Special Act
- 152 No. 476 of the Special Acts of 1957.
- 153 Sec. 5. Section 3 of special act 01-6 is amended to read as follows
- 154 (*Effective from passage*):
- Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the
- 156 Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall convey to the Yantic
- 157 Volunteer Fire Department the parcels of land located at [42, 44] 40
- and 42 Franklin Road in the towns of Norwich and Franklin and 46
- 159 Franklin Road in the town of Franklin, at a cost equal to the
- administrative costs of making such conveyance. Said parcels of land
- 161 have a total area of approximately .58 acre. The conveyance shall be
- subject to the approval of the State Properties Review Board.
- Sec. 6. (Effective from passage) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of
- the general statutes, the Commissioner of Transportation shall convey
- to Leonard C. Reizfeld a parcel of land located in the town of Hamden,
- at a cost equal to the fair market value of said land, as determined by
- 167 two separate appraisals. Said parcel of land has an area of
- approximately 15,213 square feet and is identified as the parcel of land
- designated by the Department of Transportation as File No. 185-33-
- 170 13A. The conveyance shall be subject to the approval of the State
- 171 Properties Review Board.
- (b) The State Properties Review Board shall complete its review of
- the conveyance of said parcel of land not later than thirty days after it
- 174 receives a proposed agreement from the Department of
- 175 Transportation. The land shall remain under the care and control of
- said department until a conveyance is made in accordance with the
- 177 provisions of this section. The State Treasurer shall execute and deliver

any deed or instrument necessary for a conveyance under this section.

- 179 The Commissioner of Transportation shall have the sole responsibility
- 180 for all other incidents of such conveyance.
- Sec. 7. Subsection (c) of section 5 of public act 95-127, as amended by special act 98-1 and section 2 of public act 00-168, is amended to read
- 183 as follows (*Effective from passage*):
- 184 (c) The Stratford Festival Theater, Inc. shall agree to renovate the 185 current theater located thereon and to operate it as a theater, which 186 shall be known as the Connecticut-Stratford Shakespeare Festival 187 Theater, for live, theatrical performances, including at least one 188 performance of a play by William Shakespeare each year for at least 189 twenty years after the effective date of this section. The Stratford 190 Festival Theater, Inc. shall further agree that (1) it shall, within four 191 months of the date of conveyance of said parcels, present to the 192 commissioner a plan of development for the theater and the parcels for 193 the commissioner's approval, (2) the commissioner shall have two 194 months to approve or disapprove such plan, provided, if the 195 commissioner does not act, such plan shall be deemed to be approved, 196 and provided further, if the commissioner disapproves the plan, it may 197 be resubmitted, but such disapproval and resubmittal shall not extend 198 the other time limits set forth in this subsection, (3) the Stratford 199 Festival Theater, Inc. shall, within one year of the date of conveyance 200 of said parcels, present to the commissioner construction documents 201 consisting of design drawings and specifications for the development of the theater and the parcels for the commissioner's approval, 202 203 provided such drawings and specifications shall also be under the 204 jurisdiction of the local building official, (4) the commissioner shall 205 have two months to approve or disapprove such documents, provided, 206 if the commissioner does not act, such documents shall be deemed to 207 be approved, and provided further, if the commissioner disapproves 208 such documents, they may be resubmitted, but such disapproval and 209 resubmittal shall not extend the other time limits set forth in this 210 subsection, (5) the Stratford Festival Theater, Inc. shall reopen the 211 theater, within three years of the date of conveyance of said parcels or

212 within two years of the conclusion of any lawsuit relating to said 213 parcels which prohibits or substantially inhibits development of said parcels, whichever is later. Approval by the commissioner pursuant to 214 215 subdivision (2) or (4) of this subsection shall not be deemed to include 216 any federal, state or local approvals or permits necessary for the 217 construction or siting of facilities or for other regulated use of the 218 property. If at least one play by William Shakespeare is not performed 219 in any period of two consecutive years during the twenty years after 220 the effective date of this section, or if said parcels are not, at any time, 221 used for [the] any other purposes set forth in this subsection and 222 within the time periods set forth in this subsection, [they] said parcels 223 shall revert to the state of Connecticut.

- Sec. 8. (Effective from passage) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall convey to the town of Chaplin a parcel of land located in the town of Chaplin, at a cost equal to the administrative costs of making such conveyance. Said parcel of land has an area of approximately 15.9 acres and is identified as Lot 59(1) on town of Chaplin Tax Assessor's Map 75. The conveyance shall be subject to the approval of the State Properties Review Board.
- (b) The town of Chaplin shall use said parcel of land for open space and recreational purposes. If the town of Chaplin:
- 234 (1) Does not use said parcel for said purposes;
  - (2) Does not retain ownership of all of said parcel; or
- 236 (3) Leases all or any portion of said parcel,
- the parcel shall revert to the state of Connecticut.
- (c) The State Properties Review Board shall complete its review of the conveyance of said parcel of land not later than thirty days after it receives a proposed agreement from the Department of Environmental Protection. The land shall remain under the care and control of said department until a conveyance is made in accordance with the provisions of this section. The State Treasurer shall execute and deliver

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any deed or instrument necessary for a conveyance under this section,

- 245 which deed or instrument shall include provisions to carry out the
- 246 purposes of subsection (b) of this section. The Commissioner of
- 247 Environmental Protection shall have the sole responsibility for all other
- incidents of such conveyance.
- Sec. 9. (Effective from passage) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of
- 250 the general statutes, the Commissioner of Transportation shall convey
- 251 to the town of East Hartford a parcel of land located on Lombardo and
- DePietro Drives in the town of East Hartford, at a cost equal to the
- 253 administrative costs of making such conveyance. Said parcel of land
- 254 has an area of approximately 8.5 acres and is identified as the same
- 255 premises described in a deed recorded on the East Hartford Land
- 256 Records at Volume 405, Page 197. The conveyance shall be subject to
- 257 the approval of the State Properties Review Board.
- (b) The town of East Hartford shall use said parcel of land for open
- 259 space purposes. If the town of East Hartford:
- 260 (1) Does not use said parcel for said purposes;
- 261 (2) Does not retain ownership of all of said parcel; or
- 262 (3) Leases all or any portion of said parcel,
- the parcel shall revert to the state of Connecticut.
- 264 (c) The State Properties Review Board shall complete its review of
- the conveyance of said parcel of land not later than thirty days after it
- 266 receives a proposed agreement from the Department of
- 267 Transportation. The land shall remain under the care and control of
- 268 said department until a conveyance is made in accordance with the
- 269 provisions of this section. The State Treasurer shall execute and deliver
- any deed or instrument necessary for a conveyance under this section,
- 271 which deed or instrument shall include provisions to carry out the
- 272 purposes of subsection (b) of this section. The Commissioner of
- 273 Transportation shall have the sole responsibility for all other incidents
- of such conveyance.

Sec. 10. Section 15 of special act 01-6, as amended by section 6 of public act 01-194, is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

- The name of Morrissey Brook in the [town] <u>towns</u> of Sherman <u>and</u>
  New Milford shall be changed to Naromiyocknowhusunkatankshunk
- 279 Brook.
- 280 Sec. 11. (Effective from passage) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of 281 the general statutes, the Commissioner of Transportation shall convey 282 to the town of Wethersfield a parcel of land located at the intersection 283 of Interstate Route 91 and Middletown Avenue in the town of 284 Wethersfield, at a cost equal to the administrative costs of making such 285 conveyance. Said parcel of land has an area of approximately 1.05 acres 286 and is further identified as the parcel of land designated by the 287 Department of Transportation as File No. 118-68-10E. The conveyance 288 shall be subject to the approval of the State Properties Review Board.
- (b) The town of Wethersfield shall use said parcel of land for openspace purposes. If the town of Wethersfield:
- 291 (1) Does not use said parcel for said purposes;
- 292 (2) Does not retain ownership of all of said parcel; or
- 293 (3) Leases all or any portion of said parcel,
- the parcel shall revert to the state of Connecticut.
- 295 (c) The State Properties Review Board shall complete its review of 296 the conveyance of said parcel of land not later than thirty days after it 297 agreement receives a proposed from the Department 298 Transportation. The land shall remain under the care and control of 299 said department until a conveyance is made in accordance with the 300 provisions of this section. The State Treasurer shall execute and deliver 301 any deed or instrument necessary for a conveyance under this section, 302 which deed or instrument shall include provisions to carry out the 303 purposes of subsection (b) of this section. The Commissioner of 304 Transportation shall have the sole responsibility for all other incidents 305 of such conveyance.

Sec. 12. (Effective from passage) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Public Works shall convey to 880 Post Road East, LLC, terminate and release the nonexclusive easement over the parcel of land located at 880 Post Road East in the town of Westport, at a cost equal to the administrative costs of making such conveyance. Said easement is labeled as "Easement in Favor of the State of Connecticut" on a map entitled "Former State Police Barracks, Post Road East, Westport, CT" prepared by A & N Consulting Engineers, Inc. Said map is on file in the Westport town clerk's office as Map number 9384. Said easement was reserved to the State of Connecticut in the deed from the State of Connecticut to 880 Post Road East, LLC, dated December 23, 1999, and recorded in Volume 1747, Page 159 of the Westport land records. As a condition of such conveyance, 880 Post Road East, LLC simultaneously shall grant to the State of Connecticut a nonexclusive easement over the parcel of land located at 880 Post Road East in the town of Westport to certain adjoining land of the State of Connecticut for pedestrian and vehicular ingress and egress and utilities to and from the radio tower, and any replacement thereof, and adjacent building, and any replacement thereof, on such land of the State of Connecticut from the Sherwood Island Connector (CT Route 476). Said easement is labeled as "PROP. INGRESS/EGRESS EASEMENT IN FAVOR OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AREA = 8842±S.F." on a map entitled "Easement Map State of Connecticut for Property located at 880 Post Road East, Westport, Connecticut" prepared by CCA LLC and dated November 21, 2001. The conveyance shall be subject to the approval of the State Properties Review Board.

(b) The State Properties Review Board shall complete its review of the conveyance of said easement not later than thirty days after it receives a proposed agreement from the Department of Public Works. The easement shall remain under the care and control of said department until a conveyance is made in accordance with the provisions of this section. The State Treasurer shall execute and deliver any deed or instrument necessary for a conveyance under this section. The Commissioner of Public Works shall have the sole responsibility

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341 for all other incidents of such conveyance.

Sec. 13. (Effective from passage) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Public Works shall convey to the city of Norwich or its assignee a parcel of land located on State Route 32 in the city of Norwich. Said parcel of land has an area of approximately 5.21 acres and is identified as Lot 19 in Block 12 on the city of Norwich Tax Assessor's Map 77. Said conveyance shall be made subject to a permanent easement and right of way in favor of the Department of Public Works to use, maintain and access an existing sewer line across said parcel of land. Said easement shall require the city of Norwich or its assignee to replace and repair the existing sewer line to specifications approved by the Commissioner of Public Works, at a cost not to exceed sixty thousand dollars, prior to or simultaneously with the use and development of the land for the purposes authorized in subsection (c) of this section. The conveyance shall be subject to the approval of the State Properties Review Board.

- (b) Said conveyance shall be made for a total cost equal to the sum of (1) the fair market value of said parcel of land, as determined by the average of two independent appraisals which the Commissioner of Public Works shall obtain, and (2) the administrative costs of making such conveyance. Such total cost shall be subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Public Works and the city of Norwich. The Commissioner of Public Works shall promptly transmit to the State Treasurer all moneys received from such conveyance for the fair market value of said parcel, as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, and may retain all moneys received from such conveyance for the administrative costs of making such conveyance, as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.
- (c) The city of Norwich may use, sell, lease or exchange said parcel of land for economic development, municipal or recreational purposes. If the city of Norwich does not use, sell, lease or exchange said parcel for one of said purposes within three years, the city of Norwich shall sell the parcel back to the State of Connecticut for the same amount as

the total cost paid by the city of Norwich under subsection (b) of this section.

(d) The State Properties Review Board shall complete its review of the conveyance of said parcel of land not later than thirty days after it receives a proposed agreement from the Department of Public Works. The land shall remain under the care and control of said department until a conveyance is made in accordance with the provisions of this section. The State Treasurer shall execute and deliver any deed or instrument necessary for a conveyance under this section, which deed or instrument shall include provisions to carry out the purposes of subsection (c) of this section. The Commissioner of Public Works shall have the sole responsibility for all other incidents of such conveyance.

This act shall take effect as follows:		
Section 1	from passage	
Sec. 2	from passage	
Sec. 3	from passage	
Sec. 4	from passage	
Sec. 5	from passage	
Sec. 6	from passage	
Sec. 7	from passage	
Sec. 8	from passage	
Sec. 9	from passage	
Sec. 10	from passage	
Sec. 11	from passage	
Sec. 12	from passage	
Sec. 13	from passage	

**GAE** Joint Favorable Subst.

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

#### **OFA Fiscal Note**

# State Impact:

Fund-Type	Agency Affected	FY 03 \$	FY 04 \$
GF and TF - Loss	Trans., Dept, Pub. Works, Dept.;	More than	Significant <sup>1</sup>
of Asset Value	Environmental Protection, Dept.	1,000,000	
GF - Cost	Prop. Review Bd.; Treasurer; Pub.	Minimal	Minimal
	Works, Dept.; Environmental		
	Protection, Dept.		
TF - Revenue	Trans., Dept	120,000	
Gain			
GF - Savings	Policy & Mgmt., Off.	Minimal	Minimal
GF - Revenue	Treasurer	Minimal	Minimal
Gain			

Note: GF=General Fund

# Municipal Impact:

Effect	Municipalities	FY 03 \$	FY 04 \$
Gain of	Stamford, Chaplin, East Hartford,	More than	Significant
Asset Value	Wethersfield, Norwich	1,000,000	
Revenue	Various Municipalities	Minimal	Minimal
Loss	_		
Cost	Various Municipalities	Minimal	Minimal

### **Explanation**

This bill results in a loss of asset value of more than \$1 million, and in both minimal costs and savings to the state. It also results in a \$120,000 revenue gain to the Transportation Fund in FY 03. The bill results in a gain of asset value of more than \$1 million, minimal revenue loss and minimal costs, and in potential revenue gain to various municipalities.

# **New Conveyances of State Property**

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OFA defines significant as in excess of \$100,000.

The bill makes 6 conveyances of state-owned land 4 of them to municipalities at the cost of the administrative costs of making the conveyance (about \$1,000). These are to Stamford, Chaplin, East Hartford and Wethersfield. The cost of each conveyance is estimated to be less than \$1,000. The properties must be used for open space or recreational purposes or they will revert to the state. One conveyance is to a private person in Hamden at fair market value, and another is to Norwich for an easement and the replacement of a sewer line.

<b>NEW CONV</b>	<b>YEYANCES</b>	OF STATE	PROPERTY

SECTION	FROM	TO	ACRES	VALUE	USE RESTRICTION
1	DOT	Stamford	14.6	\$1.2 M	Open space, recreation
6	DOT	Leo Reizfeld	0.349	\$120,000	Private sale
8	DEP	Chaplin	15.9	NA	Open space, recreation
9	DOT	E. Hartford	8.5	\$60,000	Open space
11	DOT	Wethersfield	1.05	\$75,000	Open space
13	DPW	Norwich	5.21	NA	Economic development,
					municipal, recreation

These conveyances result in a loss of asset value to the state of more than \$1 million and a corresponding gain of asset value for various municipalities. It also represents a potential revenue loss to the state to the extent that the state could have sold properties at fair market value.

The conveyances are subject to the review and approval of the State Properties Review Board (SPRB). The SPRB is required to review each conveyance within 30 days. Deeds or any other instruments necessary for the conveyances must be executed and delivered by the State Treasurer. These requirements are part of the respective agencies normal operations and can be accomplished within existing resources.

The transfer of these state properties would result also in a reduction in the state's Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILOT) to municipalities. The reduction is anticipated to be minimal. This also results in a corresponding minimal revenue loss to municipalities. The

revenue loss would be offset for those properties that are used for economic development purposes and for those that become fully taxable.

# **Changes in Prior Conveyances**

The bill also makes adjustments in the conditions of 7 prior land conveyances which have a minimal fiscal impact. To the extent that they add additional use restrictions that are not met by the municipalities that are the recipients of these properties, the state would be more likely to regain title to the properties.

### OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 576

# AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN PARCELS OF STATE LAND

#### SUMMARY:

This bill:

- 1. conveys parcels of state property to the towns of Chaplin, East Hartford, Norwich, Stamford, and Wethersfield, and to a private party in Hamden;
- 2. amends the terms of a 1999 Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) conveyance to Hebron;
- 3. authorizes a quit claim deed releasing any right or restriction in an earlier quit claim deed recorded in New London from the state to the federal government;
- 4. requires the Connecticut-Stratford Shakespeare Festival Theater to include at least one performance of a Shakespearean play every year for 20 years and includes a reversion provision if the theater fails to do so for two years in a row;
- 5. exchanges an easement that the Department of Public Works (DPW) has on property located in Westport;
- 6. corrects the property descriptions for conveyances made last year in Old Lyme and Franklin; and
- 7. changes to Naromiyocknowhusunkatankshunk Brook the name of the portion of Morrissey Brook located in New Milford. (PA 01-194 made the same change for the section of the brook located in Sherman.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

### **NEW CONVEYANCES**

The bill requires the following conveyances from the agencies to the recipients named for the purposes specified:

1. from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to Chaplin for open space and recreational purposes (15.9 acres);

2. from the Department of Transportation (DOT) to East Hartford for open space (8.5 acres);

- 3. from DOT to Stamford, subject to the condition that Stamford grant DEP a permanent conservation easement to preserve in perpetuity its natural, scenic, and open condition while allowing for recreation consistent with that protection (14.6 acres);
- 4. from DOT to Wethersfield for open space (1.05 acres).

Each of the new conveyances is subject to the State Properties Review Board's (SPRB) approval and at a cost equal to the administrative cost of the conveyance. The property reverts to the state if the recipient uses the parcel for any purpose other than that specified in the bill.

The bill requires DPW to convey 5.21 acres in Norwich to the city, subject to a permanent easement and right of way for the department to use, maintain, and access an existing sewer line. The city must spend up to \$60,000 to replace or repair the sewer line according to the DPW commissioner's specifications. Norwich must pay the property's fair market value plus the administrative cost of the conveyance. After that, the bill authorizes the city to use, sell, lease, or exchange the property for economic development, municipal, or recreational purposes. If it does not do so in three years, Norwich must sell the property back to the state for the amount it paid.

The bill requires the DOT commissioner to convey to Leonard C. Reizfeld 15,213 square feet in Hamden for the fair market value of the land, subject to SPRB approval.

It requires DPW and 880 Post Road East, LLC to exchange a nonexclusive easement located in Westport. The easement was reserved to the state in 1999 for pedestrian and vehicular ingress and egress and for utilities to and from a radio tower and adjacent building.

### **HEBRON CONVEYANCE REVISION**

The bill removes the requirement for a referendum in the Regional School District No. 8 (Andover, Hebron, and Marlborough) on the use of the land known as the Johnson Farm Parcel that DECD acquires from Vision Housing, Inc., substituting approval by the town of Hebron. The DECD commissioner need not complete the acquisition until the town approves the conveyance. The bill requires the town to

use the land for open space, recreational, or public safety purposes instead of for construction of a new high school for the regional school district. The same reversion provisions apply if the town fails to use the property as specified in the bill.

It also revises the cost of the property the town must pay, which under current law is 40% of the fair market value, by reducing it by the amount of delinquent property taxes owed to the town. The bill requires the state and town to jointly choose an independent appraiser if they fail to agree on the fair market value of the property.

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 19 Nay 0